

b.) Remarks

As the Examiner point out in paragraph 8, the sheet other than the polarizer sheet mentioned Yamamoto includes

a principal chain hydrocarbon having adamantine ring or a cyclopentane ring which are alicyclic polyolefin resins and the use of polyester or acrylics, which, in doing so, teaches the functional equivalence between hydrocarbon resins based on cyclical residues and polyester and acrylic resin.
(Citations omitted.)

However, Applicants wish to point out Yamamoto's sheet other than the polarizer sheet is specifically incorporated in order (i) to protect the polarizer sheet, (ii) to provide a rigidity or shape retention or (iii) to provide a light-controlling optical function. See [0032]. Such protective, structural or light-controlling functions do not at all teach or suggest the destructive layer of the present invention.

In that regard, as to the Examiner's statement that

the recitation in the claims that the destructive layer is "applied to a substrate and is removed..." is merely on intended use.

Respectfully submitted, such is incorrect since the claim 1 explicitly specifies a particular peeling strength and a particular result that is obtained. Such is not merely intended; if it is not provided by a particular retroreflective sheeting then such sheeting is outside the scope of the present invention. Nonetheless, claim 15 is added in order to address the Examiner's concerns.

In addition, the peeling strength recited in claim 1 are not taught or suggested by either Hingsen and Yamamoto. Nor are such understood to be result-oriented characteristics.

Entry hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Lawrence S. Perry/

Lawrence S. Perry
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 31,865

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10104-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

LSP\ac